

Gender

One in every 4 women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime.¹ Women account for 85% of the victims of intimate partner violence; men for approximately 15%.² Of callers to the Fairfax County 24-hour Domestic & Sexual Violence Hotline in fiscal year 2013, 90.9% were female, 8.8% were male, and 0.3% were transgendered.

Race

Women of all races are about equally vulnerable to violence by an intimate partner.³ Of callers to the Fairfax County 24-hour Domestic & Sexual Violence Hotline in fiscal year 2013, 40% were Caucasian, 21% were Latino or Hispanic, 17% were of an unknown ethnicity, 11% were Asian and 11% were African American.

Socio-economic Status

Although domestic violence affects people of all income levels, people with lower annual income (below \$25,000) are three times more likely to be a victim of intimate partner violence than people with higher annual income (over \$50,000).⁴

Age

Women ages 20-24 are at the greatest risk of nonfatal intimate partner violence.⁵ Unfortunately, those who are at greatest risk may not reach out for help. Of callers to the Fairfax County 24-hour Domestic & Sexual Violence Hotline in fiscal year 2013, 2% were between 13 and 17, 5% were between 18 and 24, 60% were between 25 and 39, 28% were between 40 and 59 and 5% were 60 or older.

Children

Statistics show that witnessing violence between parents or caretakers is the strongest risk factor for transmitting violent behavior to the next generation.⁶

Teens

One in three adolescents in the U.S. is a victim of physical, sexual, emotional, or verbal abuse from a dating partner, a figure that far exceeds rates of other types of youth violence.⁷

Sexual Assault

One in 6 women and 1 in 33 men have experienced an attempted or completed rape.⁸ Sexual assault or forced sex occurs in approximately 40-45% of domestic violence relationships.⁹

Stalking

One in 12 women and 1 in 45 men have been stalked in their lifetime.¹⁰

Homicide

Almost 1/3 of female homicide victims that are reported in police records are killed by an intimate partner.¹¹ On average, more than 3 women and 1 man are murdered by their intimate partners in the U.S. every day.¹² In Fairfax County, domestic violence is the leading cause of homicide.

Impact

Eighty-one percent of women who experienced rape, stalking, or physical violence by an intimate partner reported significant short or long-term impacts, such as post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms and injury. Thirty-five percent of men report such impacts of their experiences.¹³

¹Tjaden, Patricia & Thoennes, Nancy. National Institute of Justice and the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, "Extent, Nature and Consequences of Intimate Partner Violence: Findings from the National Violence Against Women Survey," (2000)

²Bureau of Justice Statistics Crime Data Brief, Intimate Partner Violence, 1993-2001, February 2003.

³Bureau of Justice Statistics, Violence Against Women: Estimates from the Redesigned Survey, August 1995

⁴Bureau of Justice Statistics, Intimate Partner Violence in the U.S. 1993-2004, 2006.

⁵Bureau of Justice Statistics, Intimate Partner Violence in the U.S. 1993-2004, 2006.

⁶Break the Cycle. (2006). Startling Statistics. www.breakthecycle.org/html%20files/1_4a_startstat.htm.

⁷Break The Cycle, www.loveisrespect.org/pdf/Dating_Abuse_Statistics.pdf, accessed 8/12/13

⁸U.S. Department of Justice, "Prevalence, Incidence, and Consequences of Violence Against Women," November 1998.

⁹Campbell, et al. (2003). "Assessing Risk Factors for Intimate Partner Homicide." Intimate Partner Homicide, NIJ Journal, 250, 14-19. Washington, D.C.: National Institute of Justice, U.S. Department of Justice.

¹⁰Tjaden, Patricia & Thoennes, Nancy. (1998). "Stalking in America." National Institute for Justice

¹¹Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reports "Crime in the United States, 2000," (2001)

¹²Bureau of Justice Statistics Crime Data Brief, Intimate Partner Violence, 1993-2001, February 2003
Bureau of Justice Statistics, Intimate Partner Violence in the U.S. 1993-2004, 2006.

¹³NISVS: An Overview of 2010 Summary Report Findings; www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/cdc_nisvs_overview_insert_final-a.pdf

